





## Intimations.

## G. FALCONER &amp; Co.,

WATCH-MAKERS AND JEWELLERS.

NEW SELECTIONS OF

DIAMOND JEWELLERY AND ENGLISH SILVER WARE,  
HIGH-CLASS GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF SPECTACLES.

PINCENES AND EYE PRESERVES.

4. FALCONER & Co. ARE AGENTS FOR ROSS'S FAMOUS TELESCOPES AND  
BINOCULARS, LORD KELVIN'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,  
ADMIRALTY CHARTS AND BOOKS.

EASTMAN'S KODAKS AND FILMS.

64, QUEEN'S ROAD.

JAPAN



COALS.

MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA  
(MITSUI & CO.)

HEAD OFFICE: 1, SUNDAY-CHU, TOKYO.

LONDON BRANCH: 34, LIME STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG BRANCH: PRINCE'S BUILDING, 100 HONG KONG STREET, FIRST FLOOR.

OTHER BRANCHES:

New York, San Francisco, Hamburg, Bombay, Singapore, Surabaya, Manila, Amoy,  
Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, Newchwang, Port Arthur, Seoul, Chemulpo, Yokohama,  
Yokosuka, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, Madras, Kure, Shimono, Moji, Waka-  
natsu, Kure, Nagasaki, Kuchino, Saeki, Maizuru, Miike, Hakodate,  
Tahara, etc.

Telegraphic Address: 'MITSUI' (A.B.C. and A.I. Codes).

CONTRACTORS OF COAL to the Imperial Japanese Navy and Armies and the  
State Railways; Principal Railway Companies and Industrial Works; Home and  
Foreign Mail and Freight Steamers.SOLE PROPRIETORS of the Japanese Miko, Tagawa, Yamano, and Ida Coal Mines.  
SOLE AGENTS for Hokoku, Honda, Kanada, Fujiyama, Mameda, Manoura,  
Onoura, Otsuji, Sushima, Tsubakura, Yoshimoto, Yoshino, Yonokiba, and other  
Coals.

N. INUZUKA, Manager, Hong Kong.

Hong Kong, April 28, 1903.

A healthy child is  
naturally full of life.  
His mother will tell you  
**Rainier Beer**  
did her a lot of good  
its pure ingredients  
its perfect brewing  
when used in moderation  
all tend to build up the  
system.  
Better try it yourself  
**SEATTLE BREWING  
& MALTING CO.**  
SEATTLE, WASH.  
PHONE RAINIER 30

Sole Agents for Hong Kong, China and Manila.

S. E. WATSON &amp; Co., Ltd.

## Apollinaris

"THE QUEEN OF TABLE WATERS."

"Apollinaris is of recognised purity; its long continued  
and world-wide use attests its merit."

THE NEW YORK MEDICAL JOURNAL.

"The purity of Apollinaris offers the best security against  
the dangers of ordinary drinking waters."

THE LONDON MEDICAL RECORD.

Sole Agents:

CARLOWITZ &amp; CO.,

HONG KONG, CANTON, SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN, HANKOW &amp; TSINGTAU.

van  
Houten's  
Best  
& GOES FARTHEST  
**Cocoa**  
EXQUISITE FLAVOR

## Intimations.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING  
CORPORATION.NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the  
ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY  
MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS  
of this Corporation will be held at the City  
Hall, Hong Kong, on SATURDAY, the  
FIFTEENTH day of AUGUST next, at Noon,  
for the purpose of receiving the Report of  
the Court of Directors, together with a  
Statement of Accounts to 30th June, 1903.By Order of the Court of Directors,  
J. R. M. SMITH,  
Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, July 22, 1903. 1522

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING  
CORPORATION.NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the  
REGISTERS OF SHARES of the  
Corporation will be CLOSED from  
SATURDAY, the first to the fifteenth day  
of August next (both days inclusive),  
during which period no Transfer of Shares  
can be registered.By Order of the Court of Directors,  
J. R. M. SMITH,  
Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, July 22, 1903. 1521

THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA  
DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY  
MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS  
will be held in the OFFICES of the  
COMPANY, QUEEN'S BUILDINGS, CEN-  
NAUGHT ROAD, on MONDAY, the 24th  
AUGUST, at 12 o'clock, Noon, for the  
purpose of receiving the Report of the  
Directors and the Statement of Accounts to  
the 31st June, 1903.The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Com-  
pany will be CLOSED from the 10th to  
24th August, both days inclusive.By Order of the Board of Directors,  
THOS. I. ROSE,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, July 30, 1903. 1560

HUMPHREYS' ESTATE & FINANCE  
COMPANY, LIMITED.NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that  
an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEET-  
ING OF HUMPHREYS' ESTATE AND FINANCE  
COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the  
COMPANY'S OFFICES, Nos. 38 and 40,  
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Victoria, Hong-  
kong, on SATURDAY, the 31st day of  
October, 1903, at Noon, when the Sub-  
joined Resolutions will be proposed, viz:—1. That the Capital of the Company be  
increased from \$1,000,000 (divided  
into 100,000 shares of \$10 each) to  
\$1,500,000 (divided into 150,000  
shares of \$10 each) by the creation of  
50,000 new shares of \$10 each to be  
offered and if accepted to be allotted  
to the present shareholders of the  
Company at par in the ratio and  
proportion of one new share for every  
two old shares in the Company held  
by the respective shareholders thereof,  
the amount payable on each of such  
new shares respectively to be paid at  
such time or times and in such  
sums as the Company by its General  
Management may hereafter determine.2. That Article No. 32 of the Articles of  
Association of the Company be can-  
celled and the following Article sub-  
stituted therefor:—"The remuneration of the General  
Managers shall be \$4,000 per an-  
num (which shall cover office rent  
but not salaries of Secretary and  
other employees) and a commission  
of 5 per cent. of the net profits of  
the Company for each year, which  
such profits amount to 7 per cent.  
of the Capital of the Company."Should the above Resolutions be duly  
passed they will be submitted for con-  
firmation as Special Resolutions to a Special  
Extraordinary General Meeting which will  
be subsequently convened.Signed this 24th day of July, 1903.  
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,  
General Managers.CHAS. J. GAUPP & Co.,  
Chronometer, Watch & Clock Makers,  
Jewellers, Gold & Silversmiths.NAUTICAL, SCIENTIFIC AND  
METEOROLOGICAL  
INSTRUMENTS.VOYAGEUR'S COMPASSES  
BINOCULARS AND TELESCOPES.  
RITCHIE'S LIQUID AND OTHER COMPASS  
ADMIRALTY & IMRAY CHARTS,  
NAUTICAL BOOKS.English Silver & Electro-Plated Ware,  
Chronometers & Co.'s Electro-Plated Ware,  
GOLD & SILVER JEWELLERY  
in great variety.DIAMONDS  
AND  
DIAMOND JEWELLERY.  
Splendid Collection of the Latest LONDON  
PATTERNS. Very moderate prices. 472MINERAL  
ASSAYS & ANALYSES.THE YANKEE VALLEY COMPANY, LTD.,  
having its own well-equipped Labor-  
atory, is prepared, in order to assist in  
the Mineral Development of China, to do Assay  
work of all descriptions, Quantitative  
Analyses, and to classify minerals for Mine  
owners and others.Minerals as well as Minerals of Economic  
value purchased and consultations arranged  
by appointment.Address:—THE LABORATORY,  
49, Soochuen Road."YANKEE," Shanghai.  
5th October, 1901. 1728

## REDUCTION IN PRICES.

The Exchange having gone up of late  
to give the Benefit of the Rise to my  
kind Customers and Patrons, I have decid-  
ed to allow on all Cash and Credit Sales a  
Reduction of 5 per cent. on my present  
prices commencing from the 1st AUGUST  
1903 and will continue to do so until the  
Exchange shall drop to 1/8.H. RUTONJEE,  
5, D'Aguiar Street,  
57 and 58, Elgin Road, Kowloon.  
Hong Kong, August 3, 1903. 1651WASHING BOOKS:  
(In English and Chinese.)WASSERMAN'S BOOKS, for the use  
of Ladies and Gentlemen, can now  
be had at this Office.—Price \$1 each.  
CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

## Intimations.

SHANGHAI AND HONGKONG DYE-  
ING AND CLEANING CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE STATUTORY MEETING OF the  
above COMPANY will be held at the  
Company's Office, No. 5, Victoria Buildings  
on SATURDAY, the 15th AUGUST, at  
Noon.G. C. MCKON,  
General Manager.  
Hong Kong, August 11, 1903. 1654

## NOTICE.

THE situation of Householders is drawn  
to the fact that stagnant pools and  
collections of water in back-lanes, flower-pots,  
broken jars, &c., standing in their premises  
are sources of danger to people residing  
therein, and to warn them that the Sanitary  
Board intend to treat such as nuisances.By Order,  
G. A. WOODCOCK,  
Secretary.Sanitary Board Room,  
Hong Kong, July 14, 1903. 1596NIPPON YUSEN  
KAISHA.MID-SUMMER EXCURSION  
TRIPS TO JAPAN AND BACK.The Nippon Yusen Kaisha are prepared  
to issue First-Class Return Tickets from  
Hong Kong to Yokohama and back for the  
round fare of Yen 38 payable in local  
currency. Return Tickets are available for  
return up to the 31st October, 1903.  
Stop-over privileges allowed at any way  
port, and between Moji and Kobe passen-  
gers have the option of travelling by the  
Sanyo Railway.For information as to sailings, steamers  
&c., apply at the Company's Local Offices  
in Prince's Buildings, First Floor, Chater  
Road.T. S. TAKAYANAGI,  
Acting Manager.  
Hong Kong, July 27, 1903. 15 6

## STEAM TO CANTON.

THE Splendid new Steel Twin Screw  
Steamer  
"KWONG CHOW,"  
1474 Tons, Captain WALKER, leaves HONG-  
KONG for CANTON at 8.30 p.m. on  
SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS and THURS-  
DAYS, returning to Hong Kong the follow-  
ing days, leaving Canton at 5 p.m.  
Unexcelled accommodation for First Class  
Passengers. Ship lighted throughout by  
Electricity.Passengers Fare \$4.00 Single Journey.  
Meals \$1.00 each.  
The Company's Wharf is West of the  
Hong Kong Harbour Master's Office.SHU ON S. S. CO., LTD.,  
No. 8, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.  
Hong Kong, May 30, 1903. 611THE  
CHINA AND JAPAN  
TELEPHONEAND  
ELECTRIC COMPANY,  
LIMITED

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Payable Quarterly in Advance.

EXCHANGE LINES:  
\$100, and Private Lines by  
arrangement.N.B.—A Special Charge is made for  
Lines of more than average  
length.DESK-TELEPHONES.  
For a small additional annual charge Desk  
Sets can be supplied.

ELECTRIC FANS.

ELECTRIC SUPPLIES  
Of Every Description in Stock,  
including:BATTERIES, CHEMICALS,  
INSULATORS, ELECTRIC BELLS,  
LIGHTNING CONDUCTORS,  
SWITCHES, TELEPHONES,  
WIRE, etc., etc.

Send for Price Lists.

ELECTRIC BELL  
INSTALLATIONS.  
Erected and Maintained.Estimates given Free for all kinds of  
Electrical Work.Trained Mechanicians sent to Out-Ports of  
fit up Installations if required.NOTE ADDRESS:—2 ICE HOUSE  
ROAD.For full particulars, &c., &c.,  
Apply to—  
STUART HARRISON,  
A.M. Inst. C.E.,  
Manager.  
Hong Kong, April 2, 1903. 140

## Intimations.

BUTTER,  
FINEST FRESH  
AUSTRALIAN,  
70 cts. per lb. ROLL.ANGLO-AMERICAN STORES,  
1 & 3, Wellington St., Hongkong.  
64, Elgin Road, Kowloon.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instruc-  
tions to Sell by Public Auction,  
FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,  
on  
SATURDAY,  
the 15th August, 1903, at 2.30 p.m., at  
their SALES ROOMS, No. 8, Des Vaux  
Road, Corner of Ice House Street,—  
75 Cases CLARET; 75 Cases MUSTELA  
BLANCA; 75 Cases PORT WINE; 50 Cases  
SCOTCH WHISKY.Also  
4,000 ASSORTED PAPER FANS.  
N.B.—The above wines were tested  
chemically by A. Stanley, M.D., D.P.H.,  
and they were found to contain no material  
that would be injurious to health beyond  
the pure spirit common to all good wines.  
TERMS:—As usual.HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.  
Hong Kong, August 12, 1903. 1668

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instruc-  
tions to Sell by Public Auction,  
FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,  
on  
SATURDAY,  
the 15th August, 1903, at 12 o'clock  
Noon, at his SALES ROOMS,  
DUDELL STREET,—  
(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),  
THE W. ECK OF THE FRENCH  
STEAMER PAUL DOUMER,  
with all ANCHORS, CHAINS, GEAR, STORES,  
APPURTENANCES AND CARGO, in  
ONE LOT,as she now lies about 13 1/2 miles due South  
of the White Rock and about 8 miles North  
East of Raleigh Rock.TERMS:—Cash on the fall of hammer.  
GEO. P. LAMBERT,  
Auctioneer.  
Hong Kong, August 11, 1903. 1661

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instruc-  
tions to Sell by Public Auction,  
(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),  
on  
SATURDAY,  
the 15th August, 1903, at 3 p.m., at their  
SALES ROOMS, No. 8, Des Vaux Road,  
Corner of Ice House Street,—  
A FINE AND VALUABLE COLLEC-  
TION OF USED AND UNUSED  
POSTAGE STAMPS,  
Comprising:—  
BRITISH COLONIES, CHINA, PHILIPPINES,  
PORTUGAL AND COLONIES.Including a few sets of Macao Crown  
Issues, Rarities and Errors.  
(In lots to suit dealers and collectors).  
TERMS:—As usual.HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.  
Hong Kong, August 12, 1903. 1669

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

Particulars and Conditions of the Letting  
by Public Auction Sale, to be held  
on Monday, the 17th day of August,  
1903, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the  
Public Works Department, by Order  
of His Excellency the Governor, of One  
Lot of Crown Land situated between  
Deep Bay and Ping Shan, New Ter-  
ritory, for a term of 75 years.

Particulars of the Lot.

Boundary  
Measurements  
Area  
No. of Acres  
No. of Roods  
No. of Perches  
No. of Rods  
No. of Chains  
No. of Links  
No. of Fathoms  
No. of Yards  
No. of Feet  
No. of Inches  
No. of Lines  
No. of Spans  
No. of Points  
No. of Quarters  
No. of Eighths  
No. of Sixteenths  
No. of Thirtyseconds  
No. of Sixtyfourths  
No. of One hundred and twentyeighths  
No. of Two hundred and fifty sixths  
No. of Five hundred and twelves  
No. of One thousand and two hundred  
No. of Two thousand and four hundred  
No. of Four thousand and eight hundred  
No. of Eight thousand and sixteen  
No. of Sixteen thousand and three hundred  
No. of Thirty two thousand and six hundred  
No. of Sixty four thousand and twelve hundred  
No. of One hundred and twenty eight thousand and twenty four  
No. of Two hundred and fifty six thousand and four hundred  
No. of Five hundred and twelve thousand and eight hundred  
No. of One thousand and two hundred thousand and sixteen  
No. of Two thousand and four hundred thousand and thirty two  
No. of Four thousand and eight hundred thousand and sixty four  
No. of Eight thousand and sixteen thousand and one hundred and twenty eight  
No. of Sixteen thousand and three hundred and twenty four thousand and two hundred and fifty six  
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## TELEGRAMS.

## THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN PARIS.

LONDON, August 12, 1903. The accident occurred at 8 p.m. near Montesson. A carriage caught fire, lights were extinguished, and other trains arriving blocked the way. Four trains being unapproachable till midnight. The fire was extinguished by 3 a.m. The total number of victims was 84.

## THE IRISH LAND BILL.

The Irish Land Bill has been read a third time in the House of Lords.

## THE BALKAN REVOLT.

Four thousand Turks, with artillery, surrounded Krushovo, where it is rumoured, the insurgents, after repulsing two assaults, have offered a conditional surrender. After consultation with their commander, however, it has been ordered that no quarter be given. The revolt spreads daily, and the Bulgarian youths are leaving the villages and joining bands in the mountains.

## THE KING'S VISIT TO THE CONTINENT.

The King has started for Marienbad.

## FATALITY AT BRITISH NAVAL MANOEUVRES.

LONDON, August 8. There has been a boiler accident on the 1st-class cruiser *Duke* at Funchal, Madeira, while she was engaged in the manoeuvres. One man was killed and six wounded, two of them dangerously.

## FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN THE STATES.

Two sections of a Circus train ran into each other at Durand, Michigan. Nineteen people were killed and thirty injured. [Durand, north-west of Detroit, is a junction at which six railways meet.—Ed.]

## Reformer Beaten to Death.

According to the *China Times* of the 3rd inst., Mr. Shen was beaten to death by the Emperor Dowager's special order. He was beaten with bamboo for two hours continuously, until in many places his bones were exposed, by eight executioners, and as he was still alive, he was then mercifully strangled.

## Reinforcements for Kuangsi.

The *N.O. Daily News* on the 10th inst. says:—In response to applications for aid from H. E. Victor Tsen Chün-hsuen, H. E. Tuan Fung, Acting Viceroy of the Huakwang provinces, he detailed the Wuchien Brigade of Wuchang, consisting of eight battalions, or 4,000 men, to go down to Kuangsi to Viceroy Tsen's assistance. The troops left Hanyang on the 4th inst., by the China Merchants' steamers *Tai-shan* and *Feiching*.

## Alleged Murder.

The Chinaman who was recently accused of pushing another Chinaman overboard from a ship during a voyage to Canton was discharged at the Magistrate's yesterday. A number of men were going down on the ship and had a quarrel over lantern. Shortly afterwards the deceased fell overboard and the accused was charged with his murder. Since the arrest of the accused the officers of the ship have been secured, and their evidence was to the effect that the accused, when last seen, was up a ladder and no one was near him. It was surmised that he fell overboard, and owing to the doubt that existed, the accused was discharged.

## Physical Degeneration.

Our London correspondent writes:—The Earl of Meath and the Bishop of Ripon are doing great public service by the debate which they have initiated in the House of Lords concerning the physical deterioration of certain classes of the community. Alarm is aroused that the future welfare of the nation by this undeniable and evident fact will be imperilled, and already there is a difficulty as regards recruiting, the 'would-be' soldiers being deficient in many, what we were formerly wont to consider, essential for a fighting man. The fact that this degeneration is almost exclusively confined to the very poor and to those men engaged in sedentary occupations enables intelligent discussion on this all-important question, because the principal reasons given for the existence of the evil are, firstly, the small amount of walking exercise taken now that cheap and quick locomotion transfers a man so easily almost from his house to any part of the town in which he works, and, secondly, the pitiful ignorance on the part of the majority of workmen as to the necessity of having properly-cooked and well-prepared food, and until this lesson is taken to heart by the wives and mothers of England there is not much chance of any notable reform. On the other hand, the health and stature of the middle and upper classes has greatly improved, and this is greatly accounted for by the average Englishman's love of the open air and plenty of healthy exercise.

The Heiress.—The man I marry must be very handsome, afraid of nothing, and clever. Money's no object to me. My Broker: "Doesn't it seem like fate that we should have met?"

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

## Notes by the Way.

Inward parcels per a.s. *Chuan* are now ready for delivery.

No cases of plague were reported in the last twenty-four hours.

The Singapore C.O. has a credit balance of \$6,618 and a balance of assets over liabilities of \$8,963.

Mr R. T. Reid heads the Singapore C.O. batting averages with 67.3 and the bowling averages with 8.7.

Another increase of fire insurance premia at Singapore is in contemplation, and, of course, there are bitter complaints by insured.

The *N.C. Daily News* understands that Mr H. H. O'Shea, Editor of the *Chinese Press*, has been appointed Editor of the *Singapore Free Press*.

Two Burmans have been arrested at Bangkok in connection with the robbery of \$40,000 worth of jewellery from Mr. Grahner recently.

At yesterday's meeting of the Sanitary Board Inspector H. Gidley, vice Inspector Allen, on leave, was authorised to institute proceedings before the Magistrate against persons contravening Section 16 of Ordinance 1 of 1903.

The *Daily Express* states that H.M.S. *Europa* is being re-commissioned at Portsmouth for the China station. It adds that no official information as to the ship's destination is available, but it is believed she goes to China.

Mr E. Cornwall Lewis, Assistant Postmaster General, who went home in ill health some months ago, was very ill for some time after his arrival; but his many friends in the Colony will be pleased to learn that, on latest reports, he was very much improved in health.

The death is announced of Tsotai Sheng Li-sun, third brother of Sheng Kung-pao. Cholera was the cause of death. Deceased held the post of manager of the Chinese Telegraphs at Canton for many years, and at the time of his death was manager of the Huasien Cotton Mills at Yangtsepo.

The Long Lost Mug. Sir Thomas Lipton believes that every man on *Shamrock III.* will do his utmost to bring back the long lost mug. The old thing is (says the *Star*) that if they don't bring back the long lost mug, they will bring back a number of long ones.

The Harbour Master. We understand that Captain R. Murray Rumsey, Harbour Master, leaves for England, on his retirement from the Colonial service, about the middle of next month. It is believed that Mr Basil Taylor, Assistant Harbour Master, will be Captain Rumsey's successor, an appointment that will be very popular with the seafaring and general community.

Band at the Hongkong Hotel. By kind permission of Major Radcliff and Officers, the Band of the 33rd Burma Infantry will play the following programme at the Hongkong Hotel, to-morrow (Saturday) evening, from 8 to 9.30 p.m.:—

March.....'March des Troupes'.....Godard  
Overture.....'Tancrède'.....Rossini  
Selection.....'Le Toreador'.....Carrill  
Gavotte.....'L'ave in Idleness'.....Macbeth  
Selection.....'Stephen Adams' Song 'Heavily  
Valse.....'The River of Years'.....Mazela  
Polonaise.....'The River of Years'.....Mazela

GOD SAVE THE KING.

The Waste of Water. Hongkong's new Water Bill is receiving some attention in the Straits Settlements. In Penang, where there is great waste of water, there is a proposal to introduce meters. The Chinese, who are the chief consumers of water, oppose the proposal, and it will be interesting to see if they are as powerful to guide Government policy as are the Chinese of Hongkong. In Singapore, the Government has successfully grappled with the difficulty, as the following extract from the *Free Press* shows:—The discussion [on the Hongkong Bill], as we have said, is of particular interest to Penang. There, although there is practically no reservoir accommodation, houses are connected direct with the main, and without meters. With the characteristic carelessness of the native in dealing with a commodity which costs nothing, the taps are left running night and day, with the result that 180 gallons of water a head a day is consumed. Yet there is found in Penang a strong party opposed to the employment of meters, or the substitution of standpipes for house services. We have got over the worst of the meter difficulty in Singapore, inasmuch as the system is fairly established, and people who are not content to pay for the water they consume must go to the stand-pipe nearest to their houses and carry the water. A certain supply of water is a necessity and should be provided at the public expense, but to argue that there should be an unlimited supply of free water, that every coolie in the house may bathe as often as he likes, and waste a large amount of water so certain people in Singapore have contended, is about nonsense.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

## Filipino Midgets.

Two extraordinarily small Filipino midgets are at present in the City and are to be seen at 142 Queen's Road Central. They are on their way to the St. Louis Exposition and will be here for five days only. An advertisement appears in another column.

## The Silver Difficulty in Colombo.

The society of silver, about which there has been so much discussion and so many complaints is usually accentuated at the end of each month, says the *Times* of Ceylon. In a recent issue. At it is in this month, those who have to pay large numbers of bills or factory hands being especially inconvenienced.

## Signing Off at Singapore.

The *Singapore Free Press* of the 6th inst. says:—On Tuesday, Capt. Brown of the *Robertson* went to the Shipping Office to discharge his second officer, who was quite willing. Captain Boldero refused to sign him off unless the Captain gave him six months' guarantee. Capt. Brown then asked if he could discharge the man in 'camps, and Capt. Boldero said that the Harbour Master in Penang could use his own discretion. What merchant seaman wish to know is, is there one law for Singapore and another for Penang.

## Theft from a U. S. Transport.

The case in which a Chinaman was committed for trial a few weeks ago on a charge of stealing from a cabin a gold watch and chain and some gold trinkets belonging to Chief Officer Crosby of the U. S. transport *Inalla* was again before Mr T. S. Sorombe Smith today. The matter was referred back by the Attorney General owing to the fact that the transport is timed to sail before the opening of the Criminal Sessions. Mr Smith was consequently requested to deal with the matter, and sentenced the accused to six months' imprisonment, to include two weeks' solitary confinement—one week at the beginning of the term and the other at the end.

## Insanitary Forebodings.

Correspondence relative to the insanitary condition of the forebore at the Electric Light Station, Hunghom, was submitted at the meeting of the Sanitary Board, yesterday. Mr Pollock suggested that the drainage pipe there be led further out into the sea. Dr Swan blamed the proximity of the pipe for having to do with the illness of Mr Johnston's child there. The Vice-President said he believed that Dr Swan had mistaken for a drain pipe the pipe used in connection with supplying water to the condenser at the Electric Works. There was no drain nearer than a quarter of a mile. Mr Pollock remarked that a quarter of a mile was near enough to be a danger, especially if a wind was blowing from the water.

## Indian Currency Note Legislation.

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce have addressed a weighty protest to the Bengal Government against the proposed restriction of the encashment of currency notes. After reviewing the policy of the Government in the past, the Chamber considers that the proposal is one against the adoption of which they feel bound to enter a protest. It was characterised by Sir George Turner as a retrograde step, an opinion in which the Committee cordially concurred, as it would inconvenience the trading classes, hamper their operations, and tend to restrict the circulation of currency notes. The chief aim of Government in legislation on currency matters in the past had been to do everything to popularise the note issue, and the Committee trust that this policy will still prevail, and that the proposal now advanced will be finally withdrawn.

## Sir E. Satow in Rangoon.

The conferences held in Rangoon between Sir Ernest Satow and Sir Hugh Barnes on Burma-Chinese affairs were remarkable (says the *Rangoon Gazette*) for the number of experienced officials present, every aspect of the questions involved, both Imperial and Provincial, being in the hands of experts. Sir Ernest Satow has recently been in close consultation with the Foreign Office at home and with the Viceroy in Simla, while Sir Hugh Barnes was for several years Foreign Secretary to the Government of India; thus the wider Imperial aspects and the Indian point of view were not likely to be forgotten. Then there were Mr Wilkinson, an experienced consular official, who is now in Burma, on his way to his new appointment as Consul-General in Yunnan; Sir George Scott, whose knowledge of the frontier is unique; Mr Warry, the Chinese Adviser of the Government of Burma; besides, of course, our local Secretariat, who since the annexation have had Burma-Chinese questions constantly before them.

## How to Stop a Cough.

A simple but effective remedy is the following:—Breathing through the nostrils, inhale a full breath as slowly as possible without causing fatigue. Expel the breath in the pursuance to act and repeat the operation ten times. This will stop the coughing for about a quarter of an hour. Take a dose of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy during this time. It always cures and will speedily effect a complete cure. It always cures and cures quickly. For sale by all chemists and medicine vendors; WATKINS Ltd., General Agents.

## BIRTH.

At Queen Street, Singapore, on the 15th August, the wife of ALFRED PEREIRA, of a Son.

## MARRIAGE.

On 18th July, at St. Catharine's, Raffles, by Rev. H. J. Hall, vicar of St. Mary's, Kings Lynn, assisted by Rev. P. Byard, vicar of Dalton-in-Furness, and Rev. R. C. Sweeting, vicar of the Parish and Rev. E. W. Hardy, vicar of St. Mary's, Raffles, James GOTRIK, third son of late William Macgregor, of Ebbw Vale, Glamorgan, and Mrs. Macgregor, of 'The Spinney', Raffles, North Wales, to EVELYN MARY, only daughter of Henry J. Cranshaw, of 'Riversdale', Raffles.

The publication of this issue commenced at 5.20 p.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1903.

## EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The speech made by His Excellency the Governor at the last meeting of the Legislative Council contains some statements at variance with the editorial comments made by us on the previous Saturday, and as we have no desire to misrepresent the position of His Excellency or the Government we propose to recapitulate, categorically, His Excellency's statements. These will not only disabuse the minds of our readers of any misconceptions arising from our last comments, but will serve for reference when the new Water Bill becomes law. The statements are:—

(1) That the Chinese petition by which the 1902 Water Bill was blocked was presented to the Officer Administering the Government, not to H.E. the Governor.

(2) That the Government's new policy was dictated by a meeting of 'representatives of the Chinese' on the 14th November, 1902.

(3) That Mr Chadwick, the official expert, not only approves the rider-main system but actually advocates its introduction 'at the earliest possible date.'

(4) That the entire cost of the rider-main system is to be borne by the owners of Chinese houses, who will pay a special tax.

We do not know that the European members of the community—many of them interested in 'Chinese houses'—were present at the meeting of the 14th November last, or that any of them signed the petition upon which the change of policy was adopted; but as no mention of the European owners of Chinese property is made by His Excellency, we presume their views were obtained privately, either in the Executive Council or outside that select body. We may also state that the impression was that the rider-main system was adopted because it was to be paid for by the Chinese only—the Chinese owners having called the tune were, it was understood, to pay the piper. But if the Chinese are to be allowed to call the tune and someone else has to pay for it, it seems to us there is something wrong with the Government's policy. Perhaps His Excellency can offer further elucidation of this point.

Lowson's Cricket Reminiscences. Copies of Dr Lowson's Reminiscences of Intercourse Cricket may be had on application at this Office—price 50 cents each. Only a few copies have been struck off, so that applications should be made at once.

## Singapore's Death Rate.

The mortality returns for the week ended July 26 show a death-rate for Singapore of 59.95 per mille, but 8.81 of these occurred at St. John's Quarantine Island where there were 39 deaths from cholera and two from plague. Of the total of 279 deaths 66 were from fever, 31 from beriberi and 32 from phthisis.

## The Domestic Servant at Hongkong.

The *Singapore Free Press* of the 7th inst. says:—The first reading of a Bill entitled 'An Ordinance to prevent intrusion by persons other than the servants or the occupier of premises into the portion of such premises used as servants' quarters' was to be moved by the Attorney General of Hongkong at the next meeting of the Legislative Council. The bill, if passed, should put a stop to the gambling which goes on with the concurrence of servants in people's houses. But this pleasant hygienic legislation law by debilitates is a poor affair when the whole thing could be better done under a regular complete law for the 'Registration and Better Control of Domestic Servants.'

## For the Plague in the East.

World-famed Flood Mixtures is warranted to cure all ailments from cholera, dysentery, and all other ailments arising from 'bad' water, for 'Scorbutic, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin, and Blood Diseases, Pimples and Sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. Beware of worthless imitations.

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'D. C. L.'

OLD TOM and DRY GINS

\$9.00 per dozen

The best Gin on the Market, its purity defies Competition.

SOLE AGENTS, H. PRICE & CO., 12, Queen's Road.

## MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

## Meetings.

Noon.—Meeting of Shareholders of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, at the City Hall.

Noon.—Meeting of Shanghai & Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd., at the Co.'s Office.

## Auctions.

Noon.—Auction of the Wreck of the French Steamer *Paul Donner* at Mr. Geo. P. Lammett's Sale Rooms.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Wines and Spirits at Messrs Hughes and Hough's Sale Rooms.

3 p.m.—Auction of a Fine Valuable Collection of Used and Unused Postage Stamps at Messrs Hughes and Hough's Sale Rooms.

## Amusements.

9 p.m.—Performance at the City Hall.

## Miscellaneous.

3 p.m.—Competition for Spoons, of the Hongkong Rifle Association.

## General Memoranda.

Monday, August 17.—

3 p.m.—Auctions of Crown Lands at the Public Works Department's Offices. Goods per *Caledonia* unclaimed after Noon on this date subject to rent and landing charges.

Tuesday, August 18.—

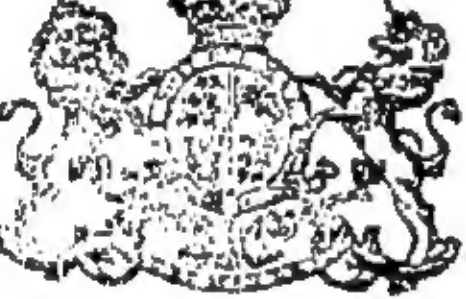
Goods per *Kongshu* undelivered after this date subject to rent.

Goods per *Yuhua* *Mary* not cleared on this date subject to rent.

Thursday, August 20.—

Transfer Books of Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., from this date to the 24th August inclusive.

Goods per *Chuan* not cleared on this date subject to rent.



A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

Established A.D. 1841.

WATSON'S

CELEBRATED

E

BLEND

VERY OLD LIQUEUR.

SCOTCH WHISKY.

Produce by chemists to be the

BEST BRAND in the FAR EAST.

Per Dozen .....\$16.50

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited,

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

8th August, 1903.

ABLE ADDRESS: 'ACHEE', HONGKONG, L. H. C. OODS, 4TH EDITION

ESTABLISHED 1850.

ACHEE & CO

利廣

17a Queen's Road.

Furniture Dealers.

DRAWING-ROOM, DINING-ROOM, and BEDROOM FURNITURE.

ELECTRO-PLATED, GLASS and CHINA WARES.

PASTEUR'S MICROBE-PROOF FILTERS, ROCHESTER LAMPS,

WHITE TURKISH TOWELS and COUNTERPANES.

COOKING RANGES, KITCHEN UTENSILS, and HOUSEHOLD REQUISITES.

M. POWELL,

UNITED.

General.

Drapers

AND

Dress

Makers

34, QUEEN'S ROAD.

Charming.

Shirt

Waists

DAINTY SILK

BLOUSES

NEW

COFFEE

COATEES

We shall be pleased to send a selection of the above on approval to our customers on receipt of their instructions.

Everything for Ladies' and Children's Wear.

Wm. POWELL, Ltd.



CORRESPONDENCE.

COMPARATIVE CHARGES.

To the Editor of the "China Mail."

Hongkong, Aug. 12, 1903.  
Sir, The lot of your correspondent "Hard Up" who writes in yesterday's "China Mail" as well as his position in life, would indeed be pitiable and deserving of every sympathy if the fact were as alleged by him, that he is a poor, struggling, and penniless man, in the Colony who put up his rates when the exchange goes down, and forget to lower them when exchange goes up again; but for my part I can easily see how a man may extend over a period of twenty years, whenever he has a chance of levelling the burden of high prices which I have had to impose upon my customers owing to the fluctuations of the market, and have reduced my prices as soon as exchange goes up high enough to allow of such reduction, as is evinced by my advertisement now appearing in your valued paper, as well as the papers of your local competitors. It is thus I have always run the simple "yearly" correspondent. "Hard Up" seems so desirous to set and follow by others—I remain, Sir, your faithful servant,  
H. RUTONJEE.

SANITARY BOARD MEETING.

The Sanitary Board met yesterday afternoon in the Board Room, the Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer, presiding. There were also present:—Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works (Vice-President); Mr. C. McI. Messer, Acting Registrar General; Captain F. W. Lyons, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police; Colonel W. E. Webb, R.A.M.C.; Mr. Fung W. Chun, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. E. E. Pollock, K.C.; Dr. A. Ramjain, Mr. E. A. Howett, Dr. W. W. Pearce, Acting Medical Officer of Health; Dr. Barnett, Assistant M.O.H.; and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

TANKS IN SECOND AND THIRD STREETS.  
Correspondence was submitted relative to the retention of the tanks, etc., in Second and Third Streets.  
The President in a letter to the Colonial Secretary pointed out that if H.E. the Governor desired that the wash-houses and tanks be continued it would be necessary for them to maintain the staff there and purchase the coal, wood, etc.

E. E. the Governor replied:—The retention of the tanks, etc., will rest with the Sanitary Board. In my opinion wash-houses and tanks are most valuable means of combating plague, and I think that we have found this in the case of the tanks. The President—I think the members will agree with me that it will be a most useful measure to retain these wash-houses and tanks which have been in use in the experimental block which H. E. the Governor took over, and I move that the Sanitary Board approve of these wash-houses and tanks being retained.

Mr. Fung W. Chun seconded, and the motion was carried.

POLLARD'S COMEDY COMPANY.

"Tom, Dick, and Harry" was repeated by Pollard's Comedy Company at the Theatre Royal last night, and met with a hearty reception. The piece went with a swing from the first and afforded those present great enjoyment. Mr. Noble, as the old General, the most prominent figure in the piece, was again responsible for the greater part of the fun, and Messrs. Watson, Carr, and Ellison, as "Tom, Dick, and Harry" very ably supported him. Miss Ad. Lawrence, Miss E. McDonald, Miss Blanche Clements and Miss Millie Ascoli were bright in their parts, and earned warm applause for their performances. To-night the Company will appear for the first time in Hongkong in that sparkling comedy "My Soldier Boy."

The plot of "My Soldier Boy" is rather better than the ordinary run of such pieces, but is somewhat difficult to disentangle. Mr. Montague Mendle, who has great expectations from his stepfather, Jonas Toddouham, has married an attractive young lady, and by so doing has risked incurring the disapproval of his stepfather. Mr. Mendle has committed a still more serious offence in the eyes of his relative. Mendle wanted to be a solicitor, but his stepfather's mind was set on his becoming a soldier, and as Toddouham has been living and earning the disapproval of his stepfather, Mendle has been forced to make him believe that he (the stepfather) has entered the Army and has become a Colonel. But Lydia, Mrs. Mendle, has her "guilty secret." Before her marriage she brought a large sum of money to her father-in-law, and the name of Cullender, and the jury awarded her £2,000 damages. Now, this Captain Cullender happens to belong to the same regiment which Mendle has chosen for his complicated stepfather. Cullender, calling upon Mendle in his solicitorial capacity, to ask his advice how to get out of paying the breach-of-promise damages, and Mendle, not knowing that the lady is his own wife, advises the Captain to marry her. A letter arrives from Toddouham saying he is on the point of visiting his stepson. In order to keep up the imposture, Lydia persuades her husband to obtain a Colonel's uniform from Cullender, and dress in it to receive him. Mendle, in order to conceal her marriage with Mendle, presents herself to the old gentleman as Mendle's maid servant. In the same character she visits Cullender at the barracks to prevent her relations with him becoming known to Mendle. The latter, finding her hidden in the barracks, becomes exceedingly jealous; but he is called away to take part in a battle-dress of a Colonel of the regiment in his own right, and he returns home disguised in a coat and hat taken from a caretaker in the field, and only escapes the violence of the real Colonel of the regiment by pretending to be a man in possession. Eventually Toddouham confesses that he has been almost all his property, on which Mendle reveals his deception and the stepfather agrees to send him to America to try and save a competence from the fortune that has been so suddenly effaced by speculations.

CLARET'S WORLD-FAMED FLOOD MEASUREMENT.  
The most searching flood measurement that actors and actresses will have brought to light. Suffice to say that the flood measurement is a very simple and easy to learn, and it is a very valuable and useful knowledge to have. Thousands of wonderful facts have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 6d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and articles.

LONDON LETTER.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

London, July 10th.

The man in the street, with spontaneous heartiness, leaving no doubt as to its sincerity, has returned to the French President that welcome which was so graciously accorded King Edward on his recent visit to Paris, and the principal thorough-faces of the Metropolis are strangely gay with Venetian masks supporting festoons of artificial flowers and with the flags of England and France flying lovingly side by side, emblem of that unity which will enable the two countries, whose very geographical situation demands of them the closest friendship, to withstand any possible attack on the part of other Continental powers. The strained relations with our neighbours across the Channel have existed too long, and what better proof of their total extinction can be required than the presence of a bona fide French hawk finding a ready sale for his little mementoes of M. Loubet's visit in the London streets. To walk down Holborn at the beginning of this week was to hear more French than English. The idea that the President came over here in the spirit of polite personal friendship, and that alone, is robbed of its feasibility by the presence of M. Delcasse, who is obviously anxious to settle a few negotiations between us by means of a direct interview with Lord Lansdowne. The aims of Great Britain and France are similar in many respects, especially as regards their great Colonial possessions, won by the prowess of their armies and navies, and there is no reason why they should not combine to preserve and extend these mighty aids to the prosperity of their respective nations without the slightest suspicion of jealousy.

When preparations are made in London for war correspondents to take their departure for the Far East, we may well regard the position of affairs between Russia and Japan as at straining point. As we understand it at home, the Japanese are determined that Russia shall evacuate Manchuria, and if she will not do so by peaceful means she must fight. It is also obvious that Russia does not wish to fight, but she will have to make up her mind one way or the other. As far as England is concerned, we should have no objection to Japan sweeping Russia off the board and assuming protection over Manchuria and Korea, places which seem totally incapable of helping themselves. It would be nothing but a tragic comedy if after all the professions of friendship which have been passing between England and France these two countries should have to face one another over such a quarrel. But we, of course, would stand by Japan. Would France stand by her ally? Such a situation might compensate Germany for her present sore feeling against us both with respect to our friendship with "La Belle France" and Mr Chamberlain's fiscal proposals.

Glorious weather and everything to make a perfect Henley, and yet Henley week was a disappointment. The effect of the floods recently had been so terrifying that people promptly decided not to hope that the high waters would have entirely subsided at the same time of our greatest River event of the year. Consequently, the number of houseboats and steam launches was small in comparison with former years, and the boatowners were also despondent at the small demand for their craft. But what the meeting lacked in numbers, it very efficiently made up in the prettiness of the houseboats, the interest in the various fixtures, and the ladies' dresses. With true wisdom, even on the lawns sloping down to the River, lawns and hollands were most conspicuous, and the elaborate confections of lace, silken muslins and voiles, were not so often figure at Henley, were not so plentiful. The latest craze, however, that your frock should be of some shade between brown and the very palest biscuit colour still holds good, and I must say harmonised very well with the surroundings of water and foliage. One beautiful frock-gown was of a champagne tint, constructed of silken voile, over a peach-coloured silk petticoat. The skirt was inserted with the new open cross work and at the edge was finished with an accordion pleated frill of the same material, bordered at the top with appliques. The bodice, inserted in the same manner, had an inside gaged yoke, falling into a full vest, and from the shoulders dropped a deep green, tucked lengthways, inset with appliques, and with lace falling from the hem. Especially pretty hollands were about, a new idea being to form a hip yoke of a different coloured linen, and this same linen generally trimmed the smart little bolero coats that open out so daintily over blouses, which may be as delightfully fussy as the wearer's fancy dictates.

THE FIRE ON THE M. M. 'TOKIN.'

Full Particulars of the Damage.

The Kobe Chronicle of the 7th inst. reports—

Yesterday afternoon, at about two o'clock, fire broke out in the fore-hold of the French mail steamer Tokin, which had arrived from Marseilles in the morning and was lying in the harbour of Ono. The flames spread with great rapidity, this being due to the nature of the cargo in the fore-hold—about 2,000 tons of chlorate of potash, half consigned to Kobe and half to Yokohama. In less than twenty minutes the flames had broken out of the hold and had seized on the wood and iron work in front of the funnels—the two bridges, and the life boats on either side of the vessel. Fanned by a strong north-easterly breeze, the whole of this part of the ship was soon a flaming furnace, burning its way gradually along the deck.

As soon as the fire was discovered, those passengers who were on board were a rush, but several returned to the burning ship, anxious to secure their baggage, which was, however, well looked after by the officers. A short time after the outbreak the scene was quite awe-inspiring, the flames having gradually usurped the whole space previously occupied in thick wreaths of smoke. Every minute increased the number of launches and sampans which arrived with passengers on board or merely spectators, and on many launches as well as on board the vessel itself, a feverish activity and excitement were the features of the scene that were most noticeable. The Tokin was lying with a strong wind almost dead ahead. Her starboard was clear of smoke, and it could be seen that amidships she was rapidly becoming a burning red mass. On the port side was a huge volume of yellow smoke which completely hid the vessel, and from this side nothing could be seen but the dense, black smoke, which came from the funnels, indicating a fire in the engine-room, which had a very peculiar effect.

One of the first to notice the fire and to help to extinguish it was the shore agent's assistant, who happened to be at the gangway when the first alarm was given. Being well acquainted with Japanese, this gentleman was of great service to the crew of coolies operating the hose from the launches. The dense smoke, the heat, and the blaze kept the launches well clear of the starboard side, and from a distance little could be seen of what was going on on board, but one or two hoses were quickly at work on either side of the vessel, and also for the funnels and deck playing on the bridge and into the hold.

The harbour authorities and others from the shore gave assistance as quickly as possible. At the time of the outbreak the Kobe steamer, which was at the pier, and the launch were discharging cargo, and in a short space of time they had three pumps at work. The new Harbour Police steam pinnace built specially for rendering assistance in such cases, could not be used, as it is being repaired at Onaka, but the launch were very busy both on board the Tokin and from several launches. At three o'clock the smoke had almost completely given way to fire. The whole of the main funnels were now in flames, and the fire could be seen blazing fiercely through the port-holes of the forecastle, the length of the ship covered by the flames being from forty to fifty feet. Efforts were made to reach the fire from the forward end, but the purpose of the French seamen climbed over the ship's rails and knocked away the port-hole covers so that hose could be inserted or streams of water projected from the launch, where the Harbour Master, Mr. Kojima, Mr. Kojima, were superintending the work of several gangs of coolies with pumps and hose. Mr. Matsuzaki and Mr. Kawasaki, with a launch from the Kawasaki yard also gave assistance, and the Japanese were of great help in giving instructions to the Japanese.

Attention had very early to be directed to the vessel forward of the forehold, for here the ship and cargo was burning with the greatest rapidity, and the advance of the fire could be easily registered as it passed the port-holes. Before long the point began to peck off the hull of the Tokin, and in several places the iron was red hot. At four o'clock a smoking ruin was all that could be seen where the bridges had been, surrounded by red-hot iron and charred timber, the Captain and Chief Officer of the vessel, scarcely visible for smoke, gave orders as well as help in giving instructions to the Japanese. The cargo that was on board was cleared away, coolies dropped down near the hatchway and commenced to play on the fire from this position right above the hold. Axes were used in order to clear the way for the hose, and in a short time a great quantity of water was being poured on the hold from this direction. At half-past four the fire was thought to be well under control, and was subject to a steady stream of water from about a score of hoses.

At five o'clock the fire had subsided, and no damage excepting that which will be done by the smoke and water. All baggage belonging to passengers was cleared from the ship in the afternoon, and the vessel was towed by a Kawasaki tugboat to Miramichi wharf at five o'clock, the flames then, apparently, the fire having got into the coal bunkers.

The cargo that is destroyed or damaged comprises the chlorate of potash already mentioned, and other cargo consigned to Yokohama. The damage cannot yet be estimated.

Two explanations are given of the cause of the fire. One is that in hoisting several casks of potash out of the hold, one of the casks slipped and fell, taking fire immediately. The other explanation given is that a coffee dropped a lighted cigarette into the hold. Once started, however, the fire spread with a rapidity that was astonishing.

In less than five minutes the whole of the ship was a mass of flames, and the quantity of smoke which proceeded from the hold made any effort to save it most impossible. There was one serious injury, and several of a minor character. An engineer was badly injured at the foot of the funnel, and a derrick crew, tucked lengthways, inset with appliques, and with lace falling from the hem. Especially pretty hollands were about, a new idea being to form a hip yoke of a different coloured linen, and this same linen generally trimmed the smart little bolero coats that open out so daintily over blouses, which may be as delightfully fussy as the wearer's fancy dictates.

We are asked to express the thanks of the Agents (M. Roux) and of the Captain of the Tokin (Commander Schmidt) to all those who so promptly came to the assistance of the officers and crew, and rendered help during the afternoon in subduing the fire.

THE FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

Singapore Protests Against its "Squeezes."

We are not yet in possession of official information as to what took place at the meeting of the local Fire Insurance Association a week ago, but we hear (says the Singapore Free Press) that it is contemplated to again put up the premium for local insurance. From 10 cents to 50 cents was a good jump some few years back. Now the proposal (so we hear) is to make it 60 cents for property in which is stored any of the goods marked in the schedule of the London Fire Insurance Association, as "hazardous." The fact that exchange is now so much more favourable for remittance to head offices in gold countries, and is likely, despite temporary movements backward, to be permanently more favourable, should make for a reduction of rates. From 1/2 to 1/1, a respectable increase of 10 per cent in favour of the Companies. Assuming that some local expenses in dollars rise in sympathy with the fall in exchange—(some have not, and to hear insurance men talk, salaries have not, nor do they intend to)—the present rates are certainly excessive. What, then, can be the reason for an increase of 50 per cent in rates? The number of fires has certainly not increased during the last few years; fire appliances and the water supply have certainly not deteriorated, to that extent a better class of buildings, less liable to fire, has been erected, and the process of improvement in this respect is going on as fast as land and bricks and mortar can be got. It would be interesting to hear what reason insurance people can give for this last increase. But, indeed, have been the complaints made by shippers against Shipping Companies and agents in consequence of the shipping conference, which has kept rates up to a point which many people consider extremely harmful to the trade of the United Kingdom ports, and favourable to rival ports and those of the Continent. Is it that the property owners and the general public of Singapore are to be exploited by another "conference" of fire insurance companies? The local public will bitterly regret the demise of our two local companies, if such is the case and if all rates and conditions are to be dictated by a committee sitting in London, making no allowances for local conditions and not leaving discretion to the local companies. From the appended extract from the "London Report" it would seem that other Far Eastern settlements are feeling the rub of the Fire Insurance Association.

RUBBISH ON THE PRAYA.

Mr. Howett asked several questions at the Sanitary Board meeting yesterday relative to a recent accumulation of rubbish on the Praya. Dr. Pearce replied that it had been allowed to stop there because the junk did not come up owing to the presence of typhoon signals. However, instructions had been issued to the contractor and the district inspector that in future when the dust-carts arrived at the stations and found that the boats had not arrived at the wharves they must be sent to the extreme east and west of the town. At a later stage, Mr. Howett said he was not satisfied with the answers given and moved the adjournment of the debate to discuss the matter. He said that to his certain knowledge two very large heaps of rubbish, one fifty feet long, were deposited some time early on Saturday morning on the Praya, and remained there till sundown. When they were removed he did not know; all he knew was that the first junk-which got along did so at 4.30 p.m., and at 5.30 p.m., when he was on the Praya, a small portion of the rubbish had been removed. It might be pointed out by the responsible contractor that a possible typhoon prevented the junk from getting there sooner. All the small sampans returned to their places in the harbour in the afternoon, and the big sailing junk might have been back in time anyway, they should have returned earlier than half past four, and if they could not do that the contractor ought to have sent a launch to bring them. These large quantities of refuse lay on the Praya the whole of Saturday, and it was a dull day, otherwise the rubbish would have been very much worse. They all knew perfectly well that there had been occasions when junk could not come to the Praya on account of bad weather, and even at this late hour of the day it might be advisable to send a launch to the Praya at all, and to have the junk removed, in the event of a typhoon preventing the rubbish from being removed, the stuff should be carried to a part of the town where there were fewer houses. If any private holder dumped refuse on the Praya at all, he would be fined, and was not right that any servant of the Sanitary Board should be allowed to dump down rubbish in a busy part of the town, to the detriment of the Port.

The President said in order to avoid a repetition in future Dr. Pearce had issued instructions to the contractor to engage coolies when necessary to take this rubbish and to have it removed to the Praya at all, and to have the junk removed, in the event of a typhoon preventing the rubbish from being removed, the stuff should be carried to a part of the town where there were fewer houses. If any private holder dumped refuse on the Praya at all, he would be fined, and was not right that any servant of the Sanitary Board should be allowed to dump down rubbish in a busy part of the town, to the detriment of the Port.

A Fine of \$1000.

An order was made in our issue of yesterday in stating that the Captain of the steamer Ellen Eichler was fined \$100 for having 1140 tons of opium on his ship, and not having taken the necessary precautions to prevent smuggling. The fine was \$1000, or three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Barbados Cotton for England.

Writing on the 10th inst., our London correspondent says:—A fact that has had but slight notice given to it in the whirl of big events this week is that Liverpool has received from Barbados a sample of cotton of unusual length and of a good texture. The true significance of this is not apparent at first sight, but if this production could only be carefully cultivated, as we have every reason to believe is being done, it would restore to the West Indies its lost prosperity, and at the same time remove from the hands of the opponents of Mr. Chamberlain's preferential tariff policy their strong weapon that such a system would ruin Lancashire and so on as her supply of cotton from the United States was concerned, because we could then get it from the British West Indies to the mutual advantage of ourselves and our Colonies. There is little chance that the sugar trade in these fertile islands will ever regain its lost footing, but the climate is eminently suited for cotton planting, and we hope this sample is but the forerunner of large and remunerative crops.

Sore Muscles.

The correct treatment of sore muscles is very simple. First take a good warm bath before going to bed, and be sure to rub yourself dry. This opens the pores. Then rub Chambers' Pain Balm into the sore muscles. If you have time when you get up in the morning, rub in some more of the Pain Balm.

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